REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-18, 33, 35, and 37 are pending in this application. Claims 2 and 14 are amended and claims 34 and 36 are herein canceled without prejudice.

The amendments to claims 2 and 4 correct a grammatical matter that is believed to be supported by the original claims 2 and 12.

COMMENTS ON REJECTION

The present response is submitted to place the present application in condition for allowance based on the suggestions in the outstanding Office Action.

In the Office Action claims 1, 14, 16-18, and 33 were allowed.

Claim 15 was objected to as the status identifier was indicated as "Amended" whereas the proper status identifier appeared to be "Original". Claim 15 has not been amended during prosecution, and thereby now includes the proper identifier as "Original".

Claims 2 and 12 are herein amended to not recite the term "are uniform" as suggested in paragraph 5 of the Office Action, and Claims 34 and 36 are canceled as suggested in paragraph 6 of the Office Action.

Further, applicants are currently preparing a supplemental Reissue Declaration to be filed in this application which will include the language noted on page 4 of the Office Action, and which will be shortly filed.

Application No. 10/817,623

Reply to Office Action of July 10, 2008

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

und Socher

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 08/07) EHK/SS:sjh

I:\ATTY\SNS\25s\251272\251272US-AM.DOC

Eckhard H. Kuesters Attorney of Record Registration No. 28,870

Surinder Sachar Registration No. 34,423